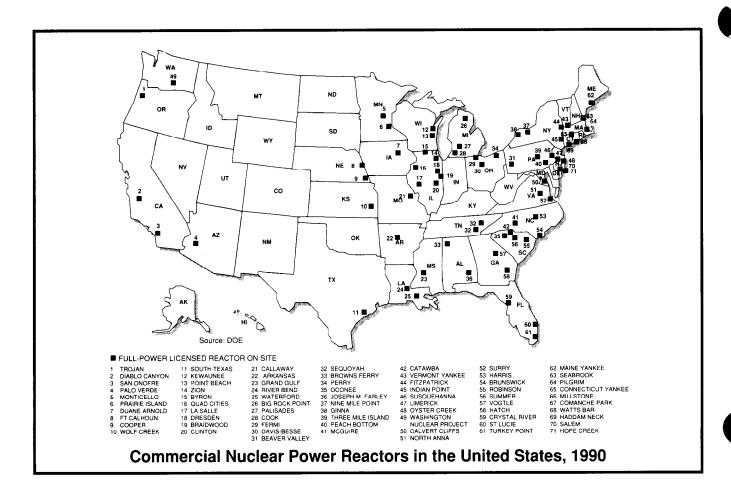
Emergency Preparedness U.S.A.



RADIOLOGICAL MATERIALS

NUCLEAR FACILITY

Nuclear power-generating facilities have the greatest concentration of radioactive materials of any private source. Although extensive safeguards are required, accidents can occur. These could affect large populations through the accidental release of radiation

Geographical Considerations

Areas at risk are normally designated as (1) within the *plume emergency planning zone* of such facilities (jurisdictions located within a 10-mile radius of a nuclear power plant) or (2) within the *ingestion emergency planning zone* (jurisdictions within a 50-mile radius of a nuclear power plant). About 75% of the States are affected, in particular the eastern half of the contiguous 48 States and the West Coast States.

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

The transportation and disposal of radioactive materials and waste creates problems because of the long life of radioactive materials. Although precautions are taken in packaging the materials, there is still concern that transportation accidents and other hazards, such as earthquakes near disposal sites, could cause radiation exposure or pollution.

Geographical Considerations

Dangers posed by radioactive wastes are concentrated in the immediate vicinity of the disposal sites or along the transportation routes. Disposal sites are located in remote areas or at nuclear power facilities.